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Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" With regard to clauses (*d*) and (*e*) the Government say that they are not prepared to give the information. May I know what difficulties there are in giving the information?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" The difficulties are that in the public interest the opinions expressed and the correspondence taking place within the Government departments are not generally revealed."

Irrigation

Progress of the proposal for the diversion of the jungle stream in Narlapalli reserve forest to the Badathalav tank in Krishnagiri taluk.

* 712 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the report of the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) about the feasibility of leading the water from the jungle stream in Narlapalli reserve forest through Chaknayur tank to the Badathalav tank in Krishnagiri taluk of Salem district referred to in answer to question No. 507, dated 8th November 1935, has been received and if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the table;

(*b*) by whom the scheme for the diversion of water from the Markandeya river to the said Badathalav tank was investigated and abandoned in 1926; and

(*c*) whether a copy of the report of the Investigation Officer as well as a copy of the order passed thereon will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) No report has been received. The Chief Engineer is likely to send a report only if he considers the scheme feasible.

(*b*) & (*c*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Chief Engineer's letter, dated 28th October 1925 and G.O. No. 70 I., dated 3rd February 1926, which were placed on the table of the House in answer to question No. 307 on 8th September 1928 (copies [a] enclosed for reference).

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" Sir, in view of the fact that there is a great lack of irrigation facilities in the district, may I ask if the Government will see their way to grant the request put forward by the ryots?"

The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—" The hon. Member will see from the letter of Mr. Mullings furnished in answer to this question and published as Appendix II that the ryots will have to pay something like Rs. 48 an acre which I do not think any ryot will pay."

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 517–519 infra.

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Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the report reveals that it has been all along considered as a productive scheme, may I ask the Hon. Member to consider it as a protective one? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" That was also considered. If the hon. Member will read paragraph 6 of Mr. Mullings' report he will see that it cannot be held to be protective also as the failure of rains for the local crops must synchronize with the failure of this stream on which the crops are expected to rely."

Land Revenue Administration

Commutation rate of the price of paddy vis-a-vis *its present price.*

* 713 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the commutation rate of the price of paddy and its present price in each district in this province?

A.—A statement [a] giving the commutation rate for paddy on which the resettlement of each district was based, and the commutation price calculated on the price of paddy in January 1936 is appended.

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU :—" Are the Government aware that the difference between the commutation rates and the present rates is much lower in the Godavari delta, and if so, whether they will consider the claims of the Godavari delta for more liberal remission? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" I would ask the hon. Member to read the figures carefully."

Sale of holdings in South Kanara for non-payment of land revenue.

* 714 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of holdings which were advertised for sale for non-payment of land revenue since February 1935 in South Kanara district; and

(*b*) the number of holdings actually sold in South Kanara, the value realized at each sale, the area of the property sold and the tax due from each?

A.—The Government have not the information.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I ask, Sir, whether in view of the importance of the question, the Government will call for the information? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" I have already told the hon. Member once before that the proper course is to approach the Board of Revenue in the matter."

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 519–520 infra.